

Remarks

The specification has been amended to address certain required formalities, but no new subject matter has been added. A microfiche appendix for the pages canceled (19 – 87) was already provided for in the parent application. In the event a duplicate copy is required for the present filing, Applicant can provide the same.

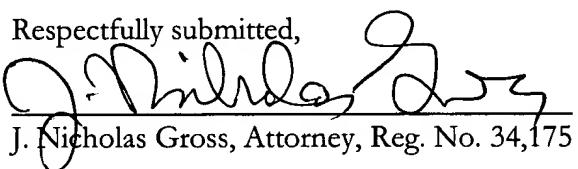
Claims 1 – 68 are canceled, as they were already prosecuted in the parent application. New claims 69 – 88 are pending, and are based on claims presented in the parent application that were not elected in response to a restriction requirement issued October 26, 2000 (paper No. 6). These claims relate to those features of the present invention permitting a user to interact with and annotate online charts, such as, for example, those created by Java based applets. Support for such claims is provided in numerous areas of the original disclosure, including pages 13, ll. 14+; page 16, ll. 21+, Figs. 2 and 3, and particularly the trendlines 330 shown in such figures. In addition to free-hand drawings, these annotations can also include features added automatically by the program under user control, such as labels, calculations, etc. *See* page 17, ll. 1 – 10.

As mentioned in the specification, widespread use of the JavaTM programming language and associated applet applications have been hindered by the fact that their local system security restrictions prevent many otherwise useful features from being implemented. Applicant has solved such problem, and thus imparted useful types of functionality to such applications. For instance, in an applet based charting application operating within a browser, it is extremely useful to be able to draw (or overlay) customized trendlines onto a stock chart, so that the user can visualize/capture the expected future performance of such security.

Since it is believed that no prior art systems permit a user to directly annotate such types of charts from within a conventional web browser, the undersigned submits that the present claims plainly present patentable subject matter. Accordingly, early allowance of the same is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, this 30th day of April, 2001.